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MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

CONTAINING THE

INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE,

RESPECTING THE NEGOTIATIONS

WITH

THE SIX NATIONS OF INDIANS

IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

JANUARY 19, 1821.

Read, and ordered to lie upon the table.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY GALES AND SEATON.

1821.

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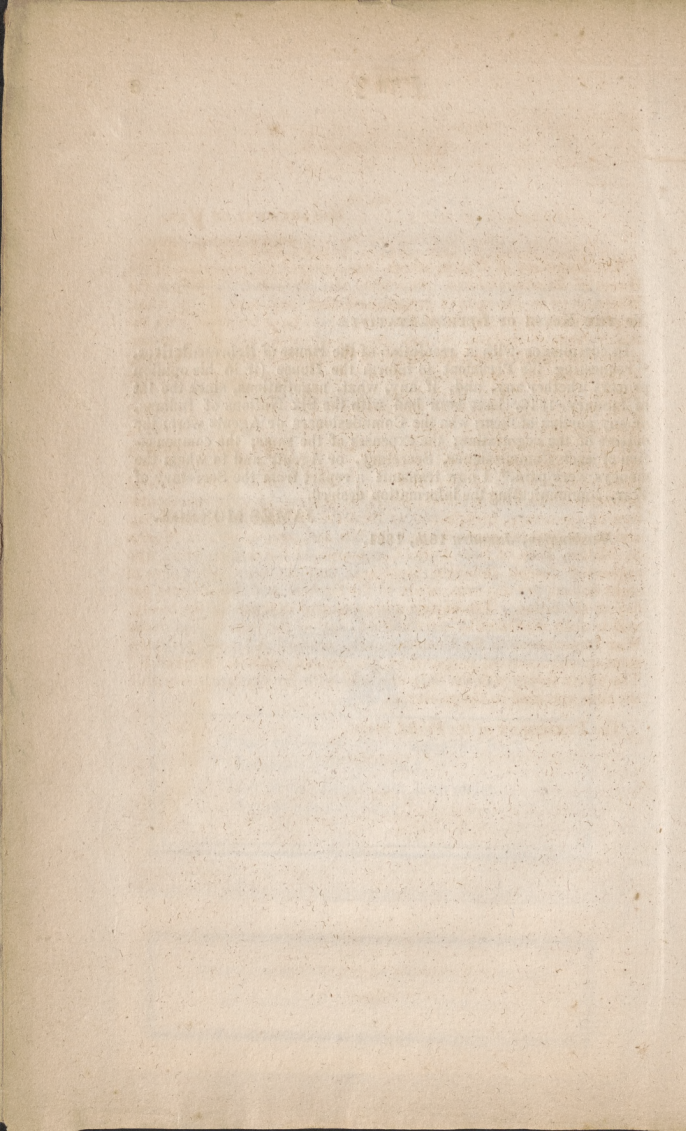
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TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, "requesting the President to inform the House (if in his opinion proper) whether any, and, if any, what, negotiations, since the 1st of January, 1816, have been had with the Six Nations of Indians, or any portion of them; who the Commissioners or Agents were; the objects of the negotiation; the expenses of the same; the compensation of each Commissioner, Secretary, or Agent; and to whom the moneys were paid," I now transmit a report from the Secretary of War, communicating the information desired.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, January 18th, 1821.



DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

16th January, 1821.

The Secretary of War to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives, requesting the President to inform the House, “(if in his opinion proper,) whether any, and, if any, what, negotiations, since the 1st of January, 1816, have been had with the Six Nations of Indians, or any portion of them; who the Commissioners or Agents were; the objects of the negotiations; the expenses of the same; the compensation of each Commissioner, Secretary, or Agent; and to whom the moneys were paid;” has the honor to report, that the proprietors of the Seneca reservation having notified their intention to hold a treaty with the Seneca tribe of Indians in 1819, accompanied by certain propositions which they intended to make the Indians, and the President, approving of those propositions, conceiving it proper that the United States, as the general protector of the Indian tribes, should be present by their representative at the treaty, to represent to them the views of the government, and to see that the proceedings were fair and just, appointed Morris S. Miller, Esq. of New York, Commissioner for that purpose, who appointed Joseph Delafield Secretary; that the usual allowance of eight dollars per day was made to the former, and five dollars per day to the latter. The objects and amount of expenses of the treaty, will be fully disclosed by the enclosed copy of the instructions of the War Department to the Commissioner, (marked A,) and by a statement of disbursement prepared by the Second Auditor, (marked B.) The above treaty was the only one held with the Six Nations within the time specified in the resolution.

The PRESIDENT of the United States.

THE HISTORY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

BY
JAMES M. SMITH

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A.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

27th March, 1819.

SIR: I enclose you a commission from the President of the United States, to act as agent of the government in a treaty which the proprietors of the Seneca reservations, in the state of New York, propose to hold with that nation. I also enclose a copy of a letter from the honorable David Ogden, one of the proprietors, which communicates their wish to hold a treaty this summer with the Senecas, and appointment of commissioners on the part of the state of Massachusetts. It is thought that the United States, as the general protector of the Indian tribes, ought to be present at the treaty, to represent to them the views of the government, and to see that the proceedings are just and fair. You have been selected by the President for this purpose. It is understood to be the wish of the proprietors to concentrate the Senecas on the Allegany reservations, and to convey it to the President of the United States for the time being, in trust for the Seneca nation. The reservation is said to contain upwards of thirty thousand acres; that the soil is, almost without exception, remarkably good, and that it is so surrounded by mountains as, in a considerable degree, to prevent the intrusion of the white people. You will inquire into the truth of these statements, and if you are satisfied of their correctness, you will give a decided support to the proposition to concentrate them on the Allegany reservations, on such terms and conditions as you may deem just and fair. Their present scattered condition is equally unfriendly to theirs and our own interest. It makes them more exposed to the effects of violence and injustice, and renders all efforts to better their condition more difficult and expensive.

It is represented that it may be the desire of a part of the Senecas to join that portion of their nation who reside at Lower Sandusky. Governor Cass is of opinion that it would not be objected to by the neighboring white population, and that the reservation at Sandusky is sufficiently large for a considerable addition of their numbers. With these facts, you may represent to them that all who may choose to emigrate to Sandusky, and who can obtain the assent of their brethren, will be permitted to do so.

You are also authorized to state, that, if the Seneca nation, or any portion of it, should choose to form new settlements, and can obtain the consent of any of the Indian tribes residing in the territories of the United States, to form such settlements on lands belonging to such tribes, government will readily give its assent to their removal there.

Whatever measure may be adopted must be with their free assent, and you will make such representation to them, of the propositions which may be presented by the proprietors, or their agent, as that they may fully comprehend their meaning.

The treaty (except your pay as a commissioner) will be held at the expense of the proprietors. Your compensation will be \$8 per day for the time actually engaged, which will be ascertained and paid on your certificate.

I have, &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

MORRIS S. MILLER, Esq.
Utica, New York.

B.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Second Auditor's Office, 16th January, 1821.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose you, herewith, a statement of all the expenses incurred by the United States in relation to any negotiation with the Six Nations of Indians, subsequent to the 1st of January, 1816.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM LEE.

The Hon. The SECRETARY OF WAR.

The United States,

To Morris S. Miller, Dr.

For 5 days employed in correspondence, examining documents, conferences with the proprietors, &c. preparatory to the treaty	\$40
For 2 days in digesting and arranging observations to be submitted to the council	16
For 11 days attendance at the treaty	88
Major Delafield was employed as secretary; his services from 5th to 12th July, the time actually employed, at \$5 per day	55
For 20 days travelling 400 miles, going to and returning from the treaty, at the rate of 20 miles per day	160
For postage	2
For 4 days in preparing report of 25th July, and documents	32
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	\$373

July, 1819, received the amount of this account in full.

MORRIS S. MILLER.